

# MEDIA FAIRNESS CAUCUS

## *A Look at Media Bias*

Rep. Lamar Smith (R-TX), Chairman

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*Dear friends and colleagues,*

*Please see below for some of the latest news and commentary on bias in the media. As chairman of the House Media Fairness Caucus, I compile this biweekly newsletter to provide a look at media bias and its impact on the public's news consumption and trust in news outlets. Included this week is a new Gallup poll of Americans' perceptions of bias, inaccuracy and misinformation in news reporting, and several bias examples.*

*- Lamar Smith*

### **Americans Believe News is Biased**

*From Gallup...*

Gallup just polled Americans on their perceptions of bias, inaccuracy and misinformation in news reporting. The survey found:

- 62% said the news they read in newspapers, see on television or hear on the radio is biased.
- 44% believe the news they read in newspapers, see on television or hear on the radio is inaccurate.
- More than a third describe the news they see in these channels as misinformation -- false or inaccurate information that is presented as if it were true.

The same poll found 8 out of 10 adults feel angry or bothered by seeing biased information.

### **The Anti-Trump Media's 'Missing Kids' Myth**

*From Jonathan Tobin in National Review...*

It was a mistake so egregious and so widespread that even the New York Times, the flagship of liberal journalism — and not the source of the original story — felt it had to devote an article to explaining how it happened. Last weekend a horrifying tale about the Trump administration “losing” 1,500 children was all over the Internet. The hashtag #Wherearethechildren went viral on Twitter. Adding fuel to the fire was a photo depicting children being kept in cages. The only problem was that the children weren't lost and the photo was taken during the Obama administration. The Left's eagerness to embrace this “fake news” stemmed, according to the Times's Amanda Taub, from “partisan polarization,” and as a result the tale “spread across liberal social media.”

### **Trump Is Succeeding And It Is The Media's Nightmare**

*Greg Gutfeld on Fox News...*

“All right, let's take an inventory. Unemployment nonexistent, check. GDP soaring, check. Trade imbalance addressed, check. Nuclear threat reduced, check. Terror seems at bay, check. Things are looking up and why is that?... It feels like a good run for everyone. It is. Satisfaction with the country's direction has reached a 12-year high while trust in the mainstream media drops to another low...As it becomes harder to deny something is working, the harder the media works to show something is wrong.

“So how do you smear America as the third Reich when it is not? You lie. Take TIME magazine's cover. This weeping young girl became the media's poster child for the evil Trump's separation policy.

“But it turns out, she was with her mother the whole time and her mom, according to dad, took the child without telling him. Now, maybe your husband is bad, I don't know, but I do know the media spread this photo like a common cold just to keep the evil alive.”





